

66 NIAGARA & DETROIT RIVERS RAILWAY.

the municipalities whose means are invested in the road. It further appears, from the evidence submitted to Your Committee, that the others of those gentlemen have been selected as the mere nominees of Mr. Buchanan, for the protection of his interests and those of the estate of Mr. Zimmerman, of the motive of the latter of which Your Committee have no information. It also appears, from the evidence of Mr. Buchanan, that the amount of stock subscribed by the others of the said directors, is barely sufficient to qualify them, and that on that stock they had paid nothing, but that fifty dollars each, or ten per cent., has been paid for them by Mr. Buchanan himself. The claim of Mr. Buchanan on the road consists of a sum of £47,000, composed of £25,000 paid to DeBlaquiere, £11,000 as for interest to the municipalities, eight thousand pounds for debts of which Your Committee have no detailed statements; and £3,000 being Mr. Buchanan's expenses for law and Chancery costs, expenses of trips of himself and others to England, and expenditure incident to the carrying out his project to control the said charters for the benefit of the Great Western Railway.

Notwithstanding the great length of the Report of Your Committee, many facts remain to be brought to the notice of Your Honorable House, for a knowledge of which they beg to refer to the accompanying evidence and documents. That gross wrong has been practised by parties officially and otherwise in connexion with the said Company, is fully established, and that those concerned in the perpetration of such wrong, are individuals who have hitherto occupied high and honorable positions in society and in public stations, is a circumstance of a peculiarly humiliating and painful character. Your Committee have felt it to be their duty thoroughly to investigate the matters referred to them, and plainly, and faithfully to state the facts, whomsoever they might affect. They do not consider themselves called upon to offer to Your Honorable House any specific recommendation in the premises, believing as they do that the discovery of a means of punishing the parties guilty of the outrageous offences against morality, which it has been the disagreeable duty of Your Committee to bring to the notice of Your Honorable House, or the prevention of the recurrence of them, if no present remedy be found applicable, will more properly come within the province of the legal advisers of the Crown.

All of which is, nevertheless, respectfully submitted.

M. H. FOLEY, Chairman,
DAVID CHRISTIE,
GEORGE SOUTHWICK,
WILLIAM NILES,
JOHN FRASER.

Committee Room, May 20, 1857.

It was resolved by the Committee, that the Hon. Mr. Morrison, being a member of the Government, should be excused from assenting to the report.